



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230

DATE: 10-06-2005

TITLE: The Division of Chemical and Transport Systems (CTS)
Employment Opportunity for Program Director—Dear Colleague Letter

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Chemical and Transport Systems Division (CTS) within the Engineering Directorate at the National Science Foundation (NSF) announces a nationwide search for four engineering professionals to fill the following positions:

Program Director: Thermal Transport and Thermal Processing Systems Program
Program Director: Catalysis and Biocatalysis Program
Program Director: Fluid Dynamics and Hydraulics Program
Program Director: Combustion and Plasma Systems Program

These positions are open until **January 15, 2006**. While disciplinary expertise will be expected for each, the focus of the search is to assemble a scholarly, open-minded, diverse and intellectually integrated group to join the present team in sharing ENG's responsibilities within NSF's overall mission: to support merit-reviewed education and research activities that enable the nation's capacity to perform.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: support merit-reviewed education and research activities that enable the nation's capacity to perform. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in the relevant discipline, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. Also desirable is knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of professor or associate professor. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs and in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations as necessary.

Periodic appointments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency programs may be made. Program Director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

Intergovernmental Personnel Assignment (IPA) Act: Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be

made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignees salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

Visiting Scientist Appointment. Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on a non-paid leave status from their home institution and appointed to NSF's payroll as Federal employee. NSF withholds Social Security benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

Temporary Excepted Service Appointment. Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers, and Educators" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps.

Should you or your colleagues be interested in these positions, or wish to nominate suitable candidates, please contact the search committee coordinator, Dr. Robert M. Wellek (rwellek@nsf.gov), and forward a curriculum vita to him by January 15, 2006. Applications will be reviewed immediately after this date. Inquires, applications and nominations these Program Director positions should be directed to:

Dr. Robert Wellek, Search Committee Coordinator
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